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SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR

21 Feb. 1952

SUBJECT Current Status of Leading Government Personalities

NO. OF PAGES

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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SOURCE [REDACTED]

1. Generals Jaroslav Prochazka, Bohumil Lastovicka and Cenek Hruska were arrested about 20 January 1952. Prochazka's arrest was ordered by Moscow. All three men were known as proteges of Minister of National Defense Alexej Cepicka. It is believed that Cepicka himself will be relieved of his position in the near future. He failed to attend Artillery Day ceremonies or the swearing-in ceremonies for Czechoslovak Army recruits. [REDACTED]

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2. STB Chief Baudis (sic) was arrested in January 1952. Vice Minister of Foreign Trade Rudolf Margolius was replaced by Pisarik. (2) Pisarik may hold this post only temporarily since the Czechoslovak Central Committee has already approved the appointment of Kocour to the position of Vice Minister of Foreign Trade. (3)

3. Czechoslovakia is now governed by a triumvirate consisting of Prime Minister Antonin Zapotocky, and Deputy Prime Ministers Jaromir Dolansky and Zdenek Fierlinger. (4) Fierlinger is considered as the most obedient servant of the Kremlin in Czechoslovakia and has regained a position of importance through Moscow favor dating to the Communist Coup of February 1948. Gottwald's position is not yet clear; he may suffer from further investigation of the Slansky affair.

4. Minister of Information Vaclav Kopecky is chief of a special delegation en route to Communist China on a propaganda tour.

5. Dolores Ibarruri (La Pasionaria), Secretary of the Spanish Communist Party, is said to be in total disgrace and is accused of deviationism. [REDACTED]

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- (1) [REDACTED] Comment: This tends to confirm the view expressed in [REDACTED]

- (2) [REDACTED] Comment: Pisarik has been Secretary of the Territorial Section of the Ministry of Foreign Trade in charge of transactions involving Kovo, Metalimex and Ferromet.

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- (3) [] Comment: Kocour is former General Manager of Kovo and was associated with Ferromet. He is now with the Czechoslovak trade delegation in Moscow and is expected to assume office on his return. [] Comment: No 25X1 Kocour is known to have been General Manager of Kovo. This office holds Ing. Jan or Vladimir Kratky as General Manager as of early 1950. He replaced Ing. Rubeska.)

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- (4) [] Comment: Since the Legislative Division of the Ministry of Justice has received orders to prepare the defense for Rudolf Slansky and Bedrich Geminder, it is believed that the Slansky-Geminder group enjoys the favor of one of the members of the triumvirate. Otherwise, the defense would not be prepared by an official agency. [] Comment: The conclusion 25X1 drawn by the source does not appear necessarily to follow from his premise. In the case of such formerly high-placed government personalities as Slansky and Geminder, the Czechoslovak Government and the Communist Party will be most anxious to maintain all the forms of just trial.)

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia/Communist China

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21 Feb. 1952

SUBJECT Lack of Agreement of Czech/Chinese Trade Treaty

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SOURCE

Although the Chinese Communist trade delegation has been in Prague for three months, no treaty has yet been agreed to. The projected volume of trade is 250 million rubles in each direction. Czechoslovak exports are only half fixed since the Chinese have rejected many proposed items. The Chinese want more machinery and finished products in exchange for their raw materials.

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